

ask my friends in Jefferson County and my colleagues here in Congress to join me in wishing him a happy 104th birthday.

HONORING KVBC CHANNEL 3 ON
ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor KVBC Channel 3 on their 50th anniversary. Just as Southern Nevada has grown, so has Channel 3, the NBC affiliate serving fast-growing Southern Nevada in the Nation's 51st television market.

In 1954, the original Channel 3 studio began in a small building on Desert Inn and Boulder Highway. In 1979, Channel 3 moved into their current studios, a one-time roller rink, on Foremaster Lane and Las Vegas Boulevard.

Today, Channel 3 is the highest rated local nightly newscast, reaching a population of nearly 1.7 million people in Southern Nevada. In fact, every week, 4 out of 5 homes in Clark, Lincoln and Nye Counties tune in to Channel 3.

KVBC Channel 3 is owned by Jim Rogers, Chairman of the Sunbelt Communications Company. Mr. Rogers is a long-time Las Vegas and one of the largest contributors to education in the Nation. He is currently the Interim Chancellor of Nevada's University system.

Channel 3 is also home to many long-time employees and on-camera personalities such as Sue Manteris, Denise Rosch, Kendall Tenney, Jim Snyder, Nina Radetich, Beth Fisher, John Fredericks, Captain Gregg Deacon, Tom Hawley, Mitch Roberts, Rick Strasser, and General Manager Gene Greenberg who has been with Channel 3 for 28 years. Each of these individuals has been generous with their own time serving the community they love.

KVBC Channel 3 has always dedicated itself to bringing the news of the day to Southern Nevada residents, and stands firm in its commitment to be "Where News Comes First." I extend my best wishes to Jim Rogers and his entire team at KVBC Channel 3 on the 50th anniversary of the television station.

MEN'S HEALTH ACT

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, over the past 20 years Congress has devoted a great deal of time and money addressing the important issues facing women's health. We created an Office of Women's Health at the NIH and we have taken great strides to increase the number of women included in health studies. We have undoubtedly saved hundreds of thousands of women's lives, improved the quality of many millions more, and we have every reason to be proud.

However, we must now begin to focus on the crisis in men's health too. The simple fact is that every year hundreds of men suffer and

die needless—and entirely preventable—deaths.

In 1994, Congress established National Men's Health Week, the week leading up to and including Father's Day. Unfortunately, men's health is not getting any better.

I believe it is time for us to establish an Office of Men's Health. For that reason, I am introducing legislation today that will establish an Office of Men's Health at the Department of Health and Human Services to monitor, coordinate and improve men's health in America.

America needs a concerted effort to combat the problems facing men's health. This year, over 230,000 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer and approximately 30,000 of these men will die. Of course, we cannot save all these men. Nevertheless, we could save a lot of them. While mammograms and Pap smears have dramatically reduced the death rate from breast and cervical cancers, the death rate from prostate cancer could be reduced by widespread use of a simple test called the PSA. But many Americans have never heard of it.

I am one of the thousands of men who have been saved by a simple PSA test. I was diagnosed with prostate cancer. During my annual examination, my doctor noticed a slight elevation in the readings of a Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) test. However, it was only after a prostate biopsy that it was determined that I had cancer. Following the diagnosis, with my family, we decided that I should go ahead and have surgery. I am fortunate that my cancer was detected early, that I had a doctor who was familiar with PSA test results, and that I had healthcare coverage for my treatments. In my case, and in the cases of thousands of men, early detection and treatment have meant the difference between life and death.

However, prostate cancer is only a small component of the men's health crisis: men have a higher death rate than women do for every single one of the ten leading causes of death in this country. Men are twice as likely to die of heart disease—the number one killer—40 percent more likely to die of cancer, and 20 percent more likely to die of a stroke. At the turn of the last century, men and women had equal life expectancies. At the turn of this one, women outlive men by 6 years.

Admittedly, the largest part of the problem is that men do not take particularly good care of themselves. Only about half as many men as women have a regular physician. Overall, women are twice as likely as men to visit a doctor for regular check-up factoring out women's prenatal visits.

So if we got men to start going to the doctor would men start living longer? Well, it could not hurt. In a study published by the Commonwealth Fund, nearly 70 percent of men over 40 who visited the doctor were not even asked whether they had a family history of prostate cancer. Men making less than \$50,000 a year were even less likely to be asked. Forty percent of men over 50—who should be getting a prostate exam every single year—were not even screened by their doctors. Going to the doctor won't do anything about the fact that four times as many men commit suicide as women, that the victims of violent crime are 75 percent male, that 98 percent of the people who work in the most dangerous jobs in this country are men, and that 92 percent of people who die in the workplace are men.

What can we do about this? First, we can make men's health a public priority. Just as we support public service announcements aimed at getting women to get regular mammograms and do routine self exams, we must support the same kind of campaign to get men to get regular health checkups and do routine self exams. Testicular cancer, which is the most common cancer in men under 35, is curable if caught early enough. In addition, one of the best ways to do that is to teach boys and young men to check themselves out at least once a month.

As precious as life is, men—just like women—should have the benefit of as much of it as they possibly can. Because they live so much longer, women are in the unenviable position of seeing their husbands, fathers, and even their sons suffer and die prematurely.

So this year, let's spend some time figuring out what we can do to help men be better healthcare consumers and what we can do to give men the support and encouragement and resources they need to be the kind of fathers their kids need them to be and that they truly want to be.

I also hope that all my colleagues will help me by supporting my legislation to establish an Office of Men's Health.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PUSH
POLL DISCLOSURE ACT OF 2005

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation to increase the disclosure requirements for telephone "push polls." As many candidates for public office have learned through personal experience, these push polls are not legitimate telephone surveys, but campaign devices designed to smear a candidate under the guise of a standard opinion poll.

Imagine a voter, who has been identified as a supporter of candidate X, being asked in a survey if this support would continue if it was learned that candidate X was guilty of a terrible indiscretion or an outright crime. It doesn't matter whether the allegations are true because the idea that candidate X is somehow unfit for office has been planted successfully. This is a telephone push poll, or "smear" poll.

My legislation, the Push Poll Disclosure Act of 2005, combats this practice by exposing it to the light of day. Specifically, the bill requires that each participant in a federal election poll be told the identity of the survey's sponsor whenever at least 1,200 households are included. It also requires further disclosures when a survey's results are not to be released to the public. In this case, the cost of the poll and the sources of its funding must be reported to the Federal Election Commission, along with a count of the households contacted and a transcript of the questions asked.

The Push Poll Disclosure Act of 2005 is a simple bill. It will not hinder legitimate polling, nor will it burden polling firms with excessive regulations. What this bill does do, however, is regulate smear polls for what they are—campaign activities, and questionable ones at that. This legislation is noncontroversial and should be bipartisan, and its passage will make campaigns for federal office a little bit cleaner. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.